



Hon Craig Wallace MP
Member for Thuringowa



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries
and Marine Infrastructure**

Our ref: 04326/11

31 MAY 2011

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie 

I refer to your letter of 13 May 2011 regarding petition numbers 1606-10 and 1611-11, about recreational fishing permits for snapper.

The Rocky Reef Fin Fish Fishery is South East Queensland's most valued commercial and recreational line fishery. Snapper a key species in the fishery alone is valued at \$6.6 million annually. The Government recognises that snapper is an iconic, valuable and important species not only for recreational fishers but for all fishery stakeholders.

I am committed to ensuring that Queensland's valuable fish stocks are used sustainably. Healthy fisheries provide for high quality recreational fishing experiences and support economically strong fishing businesses and supply industries such as bait and tackle.

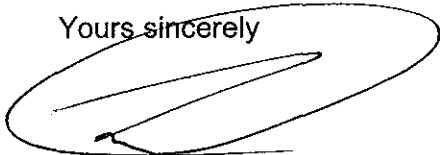
I assure you that the Queensland Government will not be charging recreational fishers a fee to catch snapper. The Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) released in December 2010 contained a range of options to rebuild the snapper stock. However in an announcement in Parliament in March this year I clearly stated that Government will not be proceeding with the proposal to charge recreational fishers a fee to take snapper.

Level 13 Mineral House
41 George Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15456 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3896 3691
Facsimile +61 7 3210 6214
Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

I have been personally consulting with stakeholders in the Rocky Reef fishery. Stakeholders have made their concerns over fees very clear. The Government will consider submissions received from all stakeholders prior to making a decision about the future management arrangements for the fishery. I expect to be announcing those final management arrangements in the near future.

I trust this information is of assistance to petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed within a hand-drawn oval. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'Craig Wallace'.

Craig Wallace MP
**Minister for Main Roads,
Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure**